

# TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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W. W. BOOTH, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS

At intervals the newspapers announce the death of an honored citizen, and mention that he was repeatedly on the electoral ticket of his party. In a vague way even the unthinking voter recognizes that it is an honor to be nominated for a seat in that renowned college. He knows that both parties choose men of standing in the community. Possibly he wonders why. It seems to him a compliment, no doubt, to represent the state on a solemn occasion, but a mere formality to announce what was decided on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

But the day we call election day does not decide the contest, although it gives a forecast of what the decision is likely to be. Once within half a century we had an object lesson, showing us the dignity and the possible importance of the electoral college. Horace Greeley died before the electors met, and the Democrats in that body were not merely permitted to use their judgment, they were bound to vote for the citizen they deemed most fit for the Presidency. The bulk of them cast their votes for Thomas A. Hendricks, whose strength in parliamentary contests and whose ability as a lawyer surely entitled him to their support. It was a tribute Mr. Hendricks never forgot, and in at least two Presidential years his friends urged it as a reason that he should be given the first place on the ticket.

Mr. Greeley was hopelessly defeated, and the incident in the college is almost forgotten. But had General Grant died it would have been the part of the Republican electors to choose the President. Once in our history two former Presidents died on the same day—suppose that both the leading candidates for the Presidency should die, think how the eyes of the country would then gaze upon the electoral college. An elector knows that, in all probability, he will simply discharge a formal duty of long standing, but he may possibly be called on to aid in choosing the President of the United States. This shows why the electors are chosen from among the men in whom their fellow citizens instinctively repose confidence.

Let anyone who has never given much thought to the electoral college apply a searching test. He knows, let us take it for granted, something about the history of his own state, and has friends far older than himself. Let him go over the lists, and see what estimable names he will find. Citizens of high standing who are remembered forty years after their deaths will come to mind.

Harrison and Taylor died in office. Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley were assassinated. Life has tragedies and it may sometimes happen that electors will feel a gigantic responsibility. There may be a day on which the choice of the electors will remind the country of the Declaration of Independence or of the adoption of the Constitution. On the wisdom and patriotism of those men the welfare of the nation may, in large measure, rest.

Another possibility presents itself. The result in a future November may be favorable to a candidate who within a week or a fortnight goes insane or commits a crime and leaves the country. Improbable as either of these events may seem yet Great Britain had to deal with the mental derangement of George the Third. Suppose that a successful candidate was so badly injured physically that it would be impossible for him to officiate—would it not be the part of the electors to choose one who was qualified?

On a calm sea a passenger may never think of boats or life preservers, yet boats and life preservers have their place in equipment. A thoughtful student of our government judges the presidential electors not by what they have done, but by what they may do.

## WRONG AGAIN.

Franklin D. Roosevelt glibly remarks that the tariff is no longer in politics. See that? Poof! a wave of the hand, and it is banished. Strange that the Democratic party in its San Francisco platform should reaffirm its adherence to the policy of a tariff for revenue only. Furthermore, confuting his statement that the tariff commission is a non-partisan body, attention is called to the fact that, while the law so provided, Mr. Wilson appointed but one Republican to that commission, and he was a pallid type who readily absorbed ink from the White House rubber stamp outfit.

The truth of the matter is that the tariff cannot be removed from politics so long as there are two schools of thought representing free trade and protection. The tariff commission can investigate until it is black in the face, but it cannot legislate because Congress lacks the power to delegate legislation. Hence, the commission's reports to Congress must of necessity be subjected to Congressional scrutiny and the protectionist will find meat for his argument equally with the free trader. Immediately the tariff becomes a political issue. Mr. Roosevelt's ignorance of this fact shows his pitiful unfamiliarity with economic questions. Imagine him presiding as president of the United States Senate. Boise Penrose and Furnifold Simmons get into a heated discussion as to the proper rate of duty on lumber, Simmons' pet industry. "Tut! Tut! gentlemen," admonishes Franklin D., "you are indulging in empty argument. I have decreed that the tariff is no longer an issue." And if they persisted in the debate he would reach for that gavel, carved from the handrail of the Presidential yacht, MAYFLOWER, sanctified by the hand of Saint Woodrow, and beat Simmons on the head. That would tickle a lot of thoughtless claps who like good burlesque, but it would raise hob throughout the country. Back to your glee club, Franklin.

Bainbridge Colby once considered the republican party "just right." Then he applied that phrase to the progressive party. He has now used it in connection with Candidate Cox. But what a political party is always asking about Colby is not whether he's just right but whether he's just left.

The Farmer-Labor party has the distinction of being supported by neither farmers nor laborers. It has the sympathy of the "I Won't Work" element and also of a few men who would like to farm the farmers.

## PROBE ASKED BY NATIVE SAMOANS

Residents of Pacific Islands are Dissatisfied With Naval Government

(Correspondence of Associated Press)  
 TETUULA, American Samoa, July 27.—Demonstrations of natives of American Samoa against the naval administration under Governor W. J. Terhune culminated today after months of rock fights in the dispatch of an appeal by native kings and chiefs to President Wilson that a board of inquiry be sent here to investigate conditions.  
 The code under which laws are administered in Samoa provides that accused persons must prove their innocence. They are denied right of trial by jury. These and other conditions involving charges against officials of the administration have been outlined in reports forwarded to the navy department and form the basis upon which the natives request that the president send a commission to the island to investigate conditions.

While the petition of the Samoan natives was in the mails to Washington, announcement was made by the navy department that Captain W. B. Evans, recently commander of the dreadnought Wyoming, attached to the Pacific fleet, had been ordered to American Samoa to succeed Commander Terhune as governor.

## SINN FEIN TRY MAN ON SETITION CHARGE

(Correspondence of Associated Press)  
 MONAGHAN, Ireland, Aug. 10.—What is believed to be the first case of "sedition" against the Irish republicans to come before a Sinn Fein court has been settled here.

A farmer who had been fined by a Sinn Fein court declined to pay, and when visited by volunteers he produced a pitch fork and shouted, "To ——— with the rotten republican police."

The volunteers left, but later the farmer was arrested on a charge of sedition and compelled to pay a bigger fine and apologize.

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## NOTICE.

Local Engineers' Union No. 623 indorses the candidacy of W. R. Cochran for Constable.

HARRY BUTSON, Pres.  
 HOWARD BURR, Sec'y.

## NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Stockholders of the Operator Divine Mining Company will be held at the office of the company on August 31st, 1920, at 2 o'clock P. M. of that day, at 125 Ellis street, Tonopah, Nevada, for the purpose of reorganizing the company and making it assessable and doing all things necessary to accomplish that end. Also to remedy and correct legal errors, if any, in the prior meetings and the assessment resulting therefrom and to transact any and all other business that shall properly come before such meeting.  
 By order of Board of Directors,  
 THOMAS J. LYNCH, Secretary.  
 A16-20

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I. G. THOMPSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

202-3 State Bank Building  
 TONOPAH NEVADA

## W. R. GIBSON

LAWYER

Room 414 State Bank Building  
 Phones—Office 622; Residence 621

## HUGH HENRY BROWN

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